

Louisa Division - Closed to upland game hunting.

Sport Fishing

Big Timber and Louisa Divisions - Sport fishing is allowed all year in accordance with state seasons and regulations except where otherwise posted. Boats and all other fishing devices must be removed at the end of each day's fishing. Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset.

Horseshoe Bend Division - Fishing is allowed from December 1 until September 15 in accordance with state seasons and regulations. Motor boats are allowed for fishing only during the periods when flood water enables access from the river over the levee.

Keithsburg Division - Fishing is allowed from January 1 until September 15. However, the Spring Slough parking area is open to fishing all year. A sign is present to designate the closed area boundary beyond the gate.

****The taking of turtles or frogs is prohibited on the refuge.***

The Iowa River Corridor is managed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with the National Wildlife Refuge System. Designated areas are open to hunting and fishing subject to state regulations. For additional information, contact the IDNR Area Biologists at (319) 330-7013 or www.iowadnr.gov.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, under the Department of the Interior, is the primary Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the Nation's fish and wildlife resources and their habitats. The Service has specific trustee responsibilities for migratory birds, endangered species, anadromous fish, and certain marine mammals as well as for lands and waters administered as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Refuge personnel encourage everyone to engage in recreational activities on the refuge. However, certain regulations are necessary to protect wildlife and preserve the beauty of the area. Any public access or activity that is not specifically allowed is prohibited.

For more information contact:

Port Louisa NWR
10728 County Road X61
Wapello, Iowa 52653
(319) 523-6982 TTY: (800) 526-0844

or visit our web sites at
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/port_louisa/

For information on state hunting license and state regulations in Iowa, please contact the Iowa Department of Natural Resources at
(319) 260-1225 TTY: (800) 735-2942

For information on state hunting licenses and state regulations in Illinois, please contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources at (217) 782-7454 TTY: (800) 735-2942

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge

2014

Public Use Regulations



Big Timber - open year round
Horseshoe Bend - open Dec. 1 until Sept. 15
Louisa - open Jan. 1 until Sept. 15
Keithsburg - open Jan. 1 until Sept. 15

Refuge Facts

Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1958 for the protection of migratory birds, and is 8,375 acres on the Mississippi and Iowa Rivers.

Four Divisions are managed by Port Louisa NWR - Louisa, Horseshoe Bend, Big Timber and Keithsburg. Refuge headquarters is located on the Louisa Division overlooking the Mississippi River near Wapello, Iowa.

Public Use

Port Louisa NWR offers many opportunities for public use including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation.

The Refuge is open to public use during daylight hours only.

Bicycling is allowed on Refuge roads unless otherwise posted.

Pets must be on a leash except when used for the purpose of hunting where hunting is allowed.

Berry and mushroom gathering are allowed for personal consumption only. These items shall not be used for any commercial use.

Shed antler collecting is not allowed.

Fires are prohibited on the refuge.

Overnight mooring of boats is not allowed.

Camping is not allowed.

All state and federal no wake regulations apply.

The discharge of weapons on the Refuge when not engaged in authorized hunting is prohibited.

To help meet the primary Refuge purpose of providing migratory waterfowl with food, water, and protection, some refuge areas are closed to public use during fall migration.

Special group trips related to wildlife dependent education (school groups, scouts, etc.) are encouraged. Guided group tours may sometimes be arranged in advance by contacting the Refuge.

Big Game Hunting

Portable stands may be used where hunting is allowed, but they must be removed at the end of each day's hunt. No nails, screws, or other hardware may be used to climb or secure blinds to the trees.

Big Timber Division - White-tailed deer hunting is allowed in accordance with state seasons and regulations.

Horseshoe Bend Division - Closed to all public access from September 15 until December 1.

Louisa and Keithsburg Divisions - Closed to big game hunting.

Migratory Bird Hunting

Big Timber Division - Migratory bird hunting is allowed in accordance with state seasons and regulations. Portable blinds are allowed on a daily basis.

Horseshoe Bend, Keithsburg and Louisa Divisions - Closed to migratory bird hunting.

Upland Game Hunting

**Includes small game, furbearers, turkey and game birds (except migratory birds).*

****The refuge is open to public use during daylight hours only, and therefore is closed to all nighttime hunting of furbearers.***

**Hunters must possess and use only non toxic shot while hunting except for turkeys, deer (shotgun, slug, or muzzleloader), or coyote (shotgun, slug, or muzzleloader)*

**Lead shot may be used for hunting wild turkey.*

Big Timber Division - Upland game hunting is allowed in accordance with state seasons and regulations from September 1 until February 28. Spring turkey hunting is allowed in accordance with state seasons and regulations.

Horseshoe Bend Division - Upland game hunting is allowed from September 1 until September 15 and December 1 until February 28 in accordance with state seasons and regulations. Spring turkey hunting is allowed in accordance with state seasons and regulations.

Keithsburg Division - Squirrel hunting is permitted from the beginning of the state season until September 15.